

# CE NEWS



## Alaska State Library Continuing Education Newsletter

### Alaska Library Association Conference

The [AkLA Conference](#) is the largest annual library continuing education event in Alaska. Each year, a group of dedicated library professionals come together and volunteer hundreds of hours organizing and coordinating the multi-day event. This year the AkLA conference is being held in the City of Ketchikan and program organizers have crafted an extremely good selection of conference sessions. Organizers have also included plenty of time for librarians to visit one another informally and network.

The AkLA Conference is an excellent forum for sharing information on statewide and national library issues, initiatives and concerns. It is also an opportunity for the Alaska Library Association and the Alaska School Library Association to recognize and honor members for their contribution to the profession.

And finally, the AkLA Conference is an excellent opportunity to grow your leadership by joining the association and serving as on Committee or Roundtable chair, a Chapter representative or as a member of the Executive Council.

« February 2017 »

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Upcoming Events:

Leaving the library for nature program: backpacks and geocaches

Tue, Feb 7, 2017 8:00am

Full STEAM Ahead

Tue, Feb 7, 2017 10:00am

Where Do I Go From Here? Engage Volunteers in New Ways

Tue, Feb 7, 2017 10:00am

Show all events

[Library Development Training & CE Calendar](#)



Keeping your library organization pointed in the right direction may be a challenge in these turbulent times. Fortunately, several national library initiatives have developed freely available resources that may be used to keep your library on course.

The Aspen Institute’s [Action Guide for Re-Envisioning Your Public Library](#) was created to help library and community leaders engage in community conversations centered on transforming the public library. The Harwood Institute’s [A Step-By-Step Guide to “Turning Outward” To Your Community](#) was designed to guide library leaders through the “culture changing activity” of turning outward and authentically connecting with their community. The guide includes a turning outward quiz, a series of self-assessments and instructions on how to facilitate a community conversation focused on community aspirations. The Public Library Association launched [Project Outcome](#) to help public libraries measure the true impact of their library services and programs. Project Outcome has developed seven key library program surveys that may be used to measure patron outcomes and evaluate program effectiveness.

Charting a course for your library requires knowing whom your library serves and what their expectations for the library are, knowing how the library may be leveraged to support larger community goals and constantly evaluating and improving library services. Ultimately your library’s success requires engaging with your community.